DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 42-44, 56-66, 82, 83, 86-101, 116, 120-126 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Ortmann et al. teach the effects of estrogen, progestin and an antiprogestin (RU-486) wherein the antiprogestin causes menstrual bleeding. Casper (US 5,108,995) teach methods of hormone replacement therapy comprising the administration of estrogen and progestin. The novelty of the present invention is that the administration of estrogen, progestin and antiprogestin, in a method of hormone replacement therapy, is effective to ameliorate uterine bleeding problems.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to DANIELLE SULLIVAN whose telephone number is (571)270-3285. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 AM - 5:00 PM Mon-Thur EST.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Johann Richter can be reached on (571) 272-0646. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Danielle Sullivan Patent Examiner Art Unit 1616

/Johann R. Richter/ Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 1616